Recycling of computers

2946. DR. M.N. DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the report about the illeffects of unsafe recycling of computers on health;

(b) if so, whether in an effort to protect their own environment, Governments of wealthy countries are encouraging recycling of computers out of their land fills;

(c) whether Government have examined such report; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Toxics Link, a Non-Governmental Organization of New Delhi has brought out a report titled "Scrapping the Hi-tech Myth-Computer waste in India" dealing with various aspects of reprocessing of computers in India.

Electronic waste, including computer waste is included in List A and List B of Schedule III of the Hazardous Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1989 as amended in 2000. Specific permission of the Ministry of Environment & Forests is required for entry of this waste into the country. No such permission has been given to any authority or person by the Ministry till date. Further, as per para 2.17 of the EXIM Policy 2002-07, all second hand electronic goods are restricted for imports.

Software Export

2947. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's software export revenue of Rs. 1,85,000 crore is expected during the year 2002-03; and

(b) if so, what is the actual export revenue accruals in the first three quarters of 2002-03 *i.e.* from the 1st April to 31st December,